



## **Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Approved Specification –Office Recycling Containers and Waste Receptacles**

### **HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT:**

This document sets prohibitions and minimum requirements for paper, plastic, and steel- based recycling containers and waste receptacles procured by the State of Maryland with which Contractors are required to comply.

### **PRODUCTS COVERED UNDER THIS SPECIFICATION:**

*Compost Bins*

*Recycling Barrels and Containers*

*Waste Receptacles*



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### 1. ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING: LEGISLATION, STATUTES, AND REGULATIONS

#### *For Procurement Officers and Agencies*

##### **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing** (COMAR: [21.11.07.09](#))

“All procurement agencies shall purchase environmentally preferable products and services unless purchasing environmentally preferable products and services would limit or supersede any requirements under any provision of law or result in the purchase of products and services that:

- (1) Do not perform adequately for the intended use;
- (2) Exclude adequate competition; or
- (3) Are not available at a reasonable price in a reasonable period of time.”

##### **Mercury and Products that Contain Mercury** (COMAR: [21.11.07.07](#))

“All procurement agencies shall give a preference under this regulation to procuring products and equipment that are mercury-free. If mercury-free products and equipment that meet the agency's product performance requirements are not commercially available, the procurement agency shall give preference under this regulation to products containing the least amount of mercury necessary to meet performance requirements.”

#### *For Contractors, Bidders, and Offerors*

##### **Verifying Environmental Claims** (State Finance and Procurement Article [§14-410](#))

“A bidder or offeror for a procurement contract shall certify in writing that any claims of environmental attributes made relating to a product or service are consistent with the Federal Trade Commission’s Guidelines for the Use of Environmental Marketing Terms.”

##### **Limitations on Hazardous Substances** (Environment Article [§6-1201 et seq.](#))

“A person may not manufacture, process, sell, or distribute in the State a new product or flame-retardant part of a new product that contains more than one-tenth of 1% of pentaBDE (pentabrominated diphenyl ether) or octaBDE (octabrominated diphenyl) by mass.”

##### **Limitations and Prohibitions on Heavy Metals in Packaging** (Environment Article [§9-§1902\(a\)-\(b\)](#)) A

manufacturer or distributor may not sell or offer for sale or for promotional purposes any package or packaging component or any product in a package or packaging component to which any of the following was intentionally added during manufacture or distribution: (1) Lead; (2) Cadmium; (3) Mercury; or (4) Hexavalent chromium.

The sum of the concentration levels of lead, cadmium, mercury, and hexavalent chromium incidentally present in a package or packaging component may not exceed...100 parts per million by weight or 0.01%.”

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### 2. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

#### A. Compost Bins

- Must contain a minimum of 50% post-consumer recycled content.

#### B. Paper Receptacles

##### 1) Corrugated Paper Receptacles

- Must contain a minimum of 50% total recycled content with a minimum of 25% post-consumer recycled content.

##### 2) Solid Fiber Boxes

- Must contain a minimum of 40% post-consumer recycled content

##### 3) Industrial Paperboard Receptacles

- Must contain a minimum of 40% post-consumer recycled content and 100% total recycled content.

#### C. Plastic Receptacles

##### 1) Rolling Carts, *Wheeled*

- Must contain a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled content.

##### 2) Set-Out Recycling Barrels and Containers

- Must contain a minimum of 50% total recycled content with a minimum of 25% post-consumer recycled content.

##### 3) Wastebaskets and Recycling Containers, *General*

- Must contain a minimum of 50% post-consumer recycled content.

#### D. Steel Receptacles

- Must contain a minimum of 25% total recycled content with a minimum of 16% post-consumer recycled content.

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### 3. ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTALLY DESIRABLE SERVICE OPTIONS

- The Contractor is strongly encouraged to provide take-back programs for waste and recycling containers offered under this contract. The Contractor will identify products that are eligible for their take-back programs during the bid process. This service must be provided to the State free-of-cost.

### 4. ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING LANGUAGE

**Instruction to Procurement Officers: Please include the following language to your solicitation if it does not already exist.**

#### A. On Environmentally Preferable Purchasing:

**The State of Maryland is committed to purchasing environmentally preferable products and services (EPPs).** Maryland’s State Finance & Procurement Article §14-410 defines environmentally preferable purchasing as “the procurement or acquisition of goods and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing goods or services that serve the same purpose.”

Accordingly, Bidders/Offerors are strongly encouraged to offer EPPs to fulfill this contract, to the greatest extent practicable.

#### B. On Maryland’s Green Purchasing Reporting Requirements:

**The State of Maryland requires, at a minimum, from the Contractor annual sales data over the life of this contract; the State also reserves the right to request quarterly sales data over the life of this contract.**

The report shall include at a minimum details about the third-party sustainability certifications and other environmental attributes of products and services sold on this price agreement per the contract specifications.

To facilitate consistent reporting on this contract, the Contractor will be provided with a VENDOR GREEN SALES REPORT template from the Green Purchasing Committee (GPC), the Office of State Procurement (OSP) or the Department of General Services (DGS).

#### C. On Environmental Claims

**All environmental benefit claims made by the Contractor concerning products or services offered on this contract must be consistent with the [Federal Trade Commission’s Guidelines for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims](#).**